

Docket No.: ACONT.0101C1

Patent

**In The Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-15 without prejudice.

16 A method of selling a quantity of electrical energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) connecting a first participant to a database display;
- (b) connecting a second participant to the database display;
- (c) displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy;
- (d) consummating a transaction between the participants for the quantity of electrical energy; and
- (e) curtailing the transaction between the participants.

17. A method of selling a quantity of electric energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) connecting a first participant to a database display;
- (b) connecting a second participant to the database display;
- (c) displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy; and
- (d) displaying a reliability indicator associated with any offer to sell electric energy.

18. A method of selling a quantity of electric energy between at least two participants, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) connecting a first participant to a database display;
- (b) connecting a second participant to the database display; and
- (c) displaying a price for the quantity of electrical energy for next hour offers;
- (d) displaying the next hour offers during the current hour; and
- (e) stopping the consummation of next hour transactions at a predetermined time during the current hour.

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Please add the following new claims:

- 4  
19. A method for facilitating the trading of units of electrical energy in a data processing system, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
- (a) receiving an offer to buy a quantity of units;
  - (b) receiving an offer to sell a quantity of units;
  - (c) storing a list of transaction conditions wherein said list comprises:
    - (i) a parameter associated with a quantity of units that can be physically delivered wherein said parameter is a limit on an electrical energy unit transmission capacity;
    - (ii) a parameter associated with a contractual agreement between at least one or more buyer and seller participants; and
  - (d) facilitating a trade transaction for units of electrical energy if transaction conditions are satisfied.
- 5  
20. The method of claim 19 further comprising:  
(e) curtailing the trade transaction between transaction participants.
- 6  
21. The method of claim 19 further comprising:  
(e) computing a performance index associated with the trade transaction.
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22. The method of claim 21, wherein computing the performance index for the trade transaction is based upon a performance index associated with a buyer, a seller, or a wheeler.
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23. The method of claim 22, wherein a performance index for a party to a transaction is based upon historical transaction data.
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24. The method of claim 19 further comprising:  
(e) determining a path of delivery of said units through a wheeler for said trade transactions.

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~~25.~~ The method of claim ~~19~~<sup>4</sup> further comprising:  
(e) informing a buyer and a seller of a consummation of the trade transaction.
- <sup>11</sup>  
~~26.~~ The method of claim ~~19~~<sup>4</sup> further comprising:  
(e) clearing a payment obligation for the trade transaction through an electronic settlement process.
- <sup>12</sup>  
~~27.~~ The method of claim ~~19~~<sup>4</sup> further comprising:  
(e) informing a buyer and a seller of a scheduling obligation for the trade transaction.
- <sup>13</sup>  
~~28.~~ The method of claim ~~19~~<sup>4</sup> wherein step (c) (i) is stored if the buyer and seller are at different points.
- <sup>14</sup>  
~~29.~~ The method of claim ~~19~~<sup>4</sup> wherein step (c) (i) is not stored if buyer and seller are at the same point.
- <sup>15</sup>  
~~30.~~ The method of claim ~~19~~<sup>4</sup> wherein step (c) (i) is not stored if the units are at the same point.
- <sup>16</sup>  
~~31.~~ A data processing system for use in facilitating the trading of units of electrical energy in a data processing system, the system comprising:  
(a) means for receiving an offer to buy a quantity of units;  
(b) means for receiving an offer to sell a quantity of units;  
(c) means for storing a list of transaction conditions wherein said list comprises:  
(i) a parameter associated with a quantity of units that can be physically delivered wherein said parameter is a limit on an electrical energy unit transmission capacity;  
(ii) a parameter associated with a contractual agreement between at least one or more buyer and seller participants; and

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transaction conditions are satisfied.

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The system of claim 31 further comprising:

(e) means for curtailing the trade transaction between transaction participants.

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The system of claim 31 further comprising:

(e) means for computing a performance index associated with the trade transaction.

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The system of claim 33, wherein computing the performance index for the trade transaction is based upon a performance index associated with a buyer, a seller, or a wheeler.

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The system of claim 33, wherein a performance index for a party to a transaction is based upon historical transaction data.

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The system of claim 31 further comprising:

(e) means for determining a path of delivery of said units through a wheeler for said trade transactions.

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The method of claim 31 further comprising:

(e) means for informing a buyer and a seller of a consummation of the trade transaction.

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The method of claim 31 further comprising:

(e) means for clearing a payment obligation for the trade transaction through an electronic settlement process.

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The method of claim 31 further comprising:

(e) means for informing a buyer and a seller of a scheduling obligation for the trade transaction.

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